

is unsustainable, and we cannot afford it.

It is past time we get this runaway spending under control. As I have said countless times, Washington has a spending problem, not a revenue problem.

The American people deserve better than this. It is time that we put them first and get our economy back on track.

HIGHLIGHTING BUILD BACK BETTER

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight how the Build Back Better Act will improve the lives of people all across our country.

For far too long, pharmaceutical giants have charged outrageous prices for lifesaving medication. The Build Back Better Act will finally allow Medicare to negotiate prices and cap the price of insulin at \$35 a month.

For years, hardworking people who fell ill or cared for an aging loved one were forced to choose between their livelihood and their health or that of their loved ones. Finally, the Build Back Better Act will ensure more people have decent healthcare and that their coverage is more affordable.

Importantly, all of this will be paid for without raising taxes on middle-class families because when billionaires pay their fair share, we can invest in those who make and build what makes and builds America.

HONORING PASTOR KENNY GRANT

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with gratitude to honor the service and ministry of Pastor Kenny Grant at Calvary Baptist Temple in Savannah, Georgia.

It is not often in life that you meet someone with as complete an understanding and unwavering trust in God's plan as Kenny Grant.

Kenny has served as senior pastor at Calvary Baptist Church for 10 years, and this past Sunday, he delivered his final sermon.

Kenny dedicated his life to serving others at 17 when he joined the U.S. Marine Corps. It was during this time in the Marine Corps that he came to Christ and discovered his calling to preach and minister to others.

After 9 years in the Marines, Kenny went straight into the ministry by founding his own church. Kenny took his experience from his time in the Marines and used it in his ministry, growing his church and nourishing the hearts of his brothers and sisters in Christ.

Kenny has served the members of Calvary Baptist Temple selflessly, and

we are excited to see where God takes him next.

□ 1645

PROTECTING ACCESS TO ABORTION

(Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, Maya Angelou said that when people show you who they are, believe them the first time. Mississippi showed us.

The State made its intent clear today before the Supreme Court to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, despite 50 years of constitutional precedent that clearly upholds it. This is about politicians controlling people's bodies and decisions.

In my 10 years working for Planned Parenthood in the South, I saw exactly who is hurt the most by harmful abortion bans: Black, indigenous, and people of color, LGBTQI-plus communities, people struggling to make ends meet. Without *Roe*, the threat to abortion is real and far-reaching. Half of U.S. States are poised to ban abortion entirely, including my home State of Georgia.

Abortion is essential. We must ensure that everyone, no matter their ZIP Code has the freedom to make decisions about their health and their families.

In the House, we did our part by passing the Women's Health Protection Act. It is time for the Senate to do its job so that we can rightfully keep abortion safe, legal, and accessible.

DEFEND THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

(Mr. FITZGERALD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to defend the sanctity of life.

Today, the Supreme Court is hearing the case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. I am glad the Supreme Court has decided to take up this important case in which they will consider whether all pre-viability bans on abortion are unconstitutional. Scientific advancements have rendered the viability standard established since *Roe* as outdated.

Today, we know the following: By 15 weeks, babies in the womb have a heartbeat. They have arms, legs, fingers, and toes. And they have fully developed hearts and can respond to light and touch almost anywhere else on their bodies.

President Biden and my colleagues on the left have taken an anti-life stance and pushed policies that would require taxpayers to fund abortions. They also would require healthcare providers to perform abortions, despite

any moral objections that they may have, and remove existing protections to allow abortions on demand, no matter what the age of the fetus.

This is wrong. I value unborn innocent lives and I will always push back with a clear and strong message.

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

(Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, for almost 50 years, the law has recognized that the decision of whether to have or not have an abortion is protected by the Constitution. Yet, in the last decade, State lawmakers have pushed through nearly 500 restrictive laws that make abortion difficult and sometimes impossible to access. This fight has reached a breaking point.

The Mississippi law being challenged at the Supreme Court today would ban abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy, well before viability. Anti-abortion policies are about power and control, control over our bodies and control over our families. We won't stand for it. We will defend our rights and freedom to access safe and legal abortion.

Keep your bans off our bodies. Keep out of our doctors' offices and family decisions. Keep our constitutional rights in place.

GOOD FORESTRY FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to announce tonight the lighting of the Capitol Christmas tree on the west steps in just a few minutes.

The tree each year is selected from a different national forest around the country. This year the tree comes from the Six Rivers National Forest in Northwest California, a four-county area I share with Mr. HUFFMAN from the Second District.

The marking of the lighting tonight indeed kicks off the Christmas season here in Washington, D.C., here at the United States Capitol.

Forestry, of course, is a very important part of our life in northern California and in the West, and positive forestry practices are extremely important if we are ever going to control wildfire and not harm the habitat and economies of our areas there.

I hope we can see in the lighting of the Capitol Christmas tree all the good things that come with good forestry and the holiday season.

Merry Christmas.

HISTORIC BILLS PASSED IN CONGRESS

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, Democrats in the House have much to be proud of as we approach the end of the year.

In the midst of an unprecedented pandemic, we have passed two of the most significant bills in the history of the House of Representatives—the Transportation and Infrastructure bill and President Biden’s Build Back Better bill.

I chaired the Highways and Transit Subcommittee and I was pleased to attend President Biden’s signing of the bill at the White House. The bill directs \$39 billion to public transportation—like D.C.’s Metro—expands broadband, and funds replacing lead service pipes.

Our Build Back Better bill is an omnibus bill that catches up with years of needs Congress has failed to meet, from affordable childcare that will free women and men to work, to combating climate change, a clear and present danger to the planet.

It would be difficult to find more significant bills passed by the House of Representatives in a single session.

RIGHT TO LIFE

(Mr. WESTERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, the first unalienable right named in the Declaration of Independence is the right to life. The Preamble of the Constitution further built the framework for this most fundamental liberty.

“We, the people . . . in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity”—none of which can truly be accomplished when the law allows the murder of unborn children.

The Supreme Court got this wrong in 1973 and now has the chance to correct its mistakes and uphold the constitutional right to life. It is absurd to argue, as the plaintiff in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* does, that our founding document can be used to prevent duly-elected State legislators from protecting life.

The Supreme Court must right this wrong. Our Nation should never put an unwritten right to privacy before the enumerated right to life.

RECOVERING, REBUILDING, RESTORING HOPE

(Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Speaker, tonight, I am honored to stand before you to speak on the passage of one of the most trans-

formational pieces of legislation in a generation signed into law, the bipartisan infrastructure bill.

In my State of Delaware, this bill will invest \$1.2 billion for highway repair, over \$200 million for bridge repair, and over \$100 million to expand internet access, and \$300 million to expand access to clean drinking water. But it is more than just concrete and fiber-optic cables, it is about the faces and places that will benefit from this bill.

In my State, I think of the students, I think of the farmers, I think of the union workers whose lives will be improved and whose communities will forever change. It is about recovering, rebuilding, and restoring hope.

Madam Speaker, we have more work to do, but make no mistake—with the bipartisan infrastructure law—we are now on the road to recovery and on the road to building back better.

AN UNBORN CHILD IS A HUMAN LIFE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BROWN of Ohio). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, our Nation is gripped by mounting crises, spurred by the failed policies of the Biden administration and congressional Democrats.

While Americans are hurting from the rising prices caused by inflation, a porous and open border, and a supply chain that is hurting every part of the American economy, it is critical that we remember and refocus on the fundamental values that have made our country great, starting with the right to life.

For me, this is an incredibly personal issue, like it is for millions of Americans with deeply held beliefs and personal experiences. I, myself, have shared my story on this very floor, that I shouldn’t even be standing here, that my mother was urged to abort me. I was not wanted. I was unexpected and I was given very little chance to survive. And yet, here I am. Again, this speaks to the miracle of life.

We have the opportunity, brought on by the *Dobbs v. Jackson* case presented before the Supreme Court to chart a new course for our Nation so that every unborn child has the right to life and the opportunity that it holds while living in America.

Roe v. Wade has cost the lives of millions of American children, but what

we have is the remarkable opportunity to make it right today. Today is the turning point.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to join dozens of my Republican colleagues to voice our support and stand for those most vulnerable, the unborn.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), my colleague, a pro-life champion.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for yielding. And I also thank Congresswoman CAMMACK for her powerful, personal testimony. I am glad you are here today. Thank you so much for your leadership.

Madam Speaker, beneath you, right underneath this dais right here, are five very powerful words. And we are so busy in this Chamber debating numerous things we don’t even look at them. But there they are, right there.

It says: Union, justice, tolerance, liberty, and peace. And we all say we want unity. We all want justice. We say we want tolerance and, of course, we value liberty. And all of these beautiful virtues point to the possibility of peace. But here is the problem: We leave out one group of persons, expectant mothers and their pre-born children. And the question before us today is why? Why?

That was the question that was debated today right across the street here at the Supreme Court. Why?

We don’t have to live like this. What we can do is live in authentic community with one another, where every person matters, including the expectant mother and her pre-born child. That is called a community of care, where a tolerant, just, and inclusive society commits to this journey of life before birth, at birth, and after birth.

□ 1700

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend and colleague. We do have an important opportunity here, and I am so pleased to have such an overwhelming number of colleagues here today to talk about and share their journey and their support on this issue.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Mrs. BICE), my friend and colleague, to talk about another pressing issue that has impacted American families across the country.

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend and classmate, Representative CAMMACK.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the Nation’s self-inflicted energy crisis created by the Biden administration.

The American people are feeling the strain of Biden’s anti-energy policies that are causing costs to skyrocket. Americans are paying 61 percent more nationally for a gallon of gas and heating costs are projected to rise 54 percent this winter.

What actions has Biden taken to undo the damage he has caused?